

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated March 16, 2006, in which pending claims 8-14 are rejected. Based on the remarks below and the Terminal Disclaimers accompanying this document, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Rejections under Obviousness-Type Double Patenting:

Claims 8-12 are rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over:

- 1) claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent No. 6,227,797;
- 2) claims 1-10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,250,880;
- 3) claims 84-87 and 102 of U.S. Patent 6,609,883; and
- 4) claims 1-8,11 and 12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,638,011.

Claims 8-12 are provisionally rejected on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-17 of co-pending U.S. Patent Application 11/238,400.

Applicants submit that the enclosed Terminal Disclaimers overcome the outstanding rejections. Accordingly, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

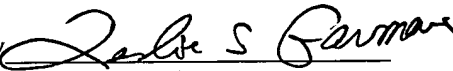
Conclusion:

Fees for the enclosed Terminal Disclaimers are filed herewith. It is not believed that any further fees are due. However, the Office is authorized to deduct any additional fees believed due from, or to credit any overpayment to, our deposit account No. 11-0223. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

We respectfully request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned if there are any further issues preventing the case from being passed to allowance.

Dated: June 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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